

Academic Misconduct **AM**

[Plagiarism Reference](#) and [Benchmark Plagiarism](#). The purpose is to create a consistent and equitable application of penalties for proven cases of academic misconduct in accordance with the [RVC Student Academic Misconduct Procedures](#).

The AM Penalty System should be used by staff alongside the AM Procedures to help aid the decision-making process. The appointed staff should give additional judgment around mitigating and aggravating factors which cannot be reasonably accounted for in the AM Penalty System.

Should you need further guidance on using the guidance document please contact the [Student Resolution and Compliance Team](#).



Assign points based on the following criteria

HISTORY

1st Time	100 points
2nd Time	150 points
3rd/+ Time	200 points

AMOUNT / EXTENT

Below 5% AND less than two sentences	80 points
As above but with critical aspects* plagiarised	105 points
Between 5% and 20% OR more than two sentences but not more than two paragraphs	105 points
As above but with critical aspects* plagiarised	130 points
Between 20% and 50% OR more than two paragraphs but not more than five paragraphs	130 points
As above but with critical aspects* plagiarised	160 points
Above 50% OR more than five paragraphs	160 points

Level 3/PG Taught	140 points
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VALUE OF ASSIGNMENT

Standard weighting (30 credits and under)	30 points
Large project (30 credits and above)	60 points

ADDITIONAL CHARACTERISTICS

Evidence of deliberate attempt to disguise plagiarism by changing words, sentences, or references to avoid detection **40 points**.

PENALTIES (Formative Work)

280 - 379	Informal warning
380+	A formal warning, with a record made contributing to the student's previous history



Award penalties based on the points

PENALTIES (Summative Work)

In all cases a formal warning is given, and a record made contributing to the student's previous history

Level	Points

Level 4	525 +	<ul style="list-style-type: none">§ Module awarded no mark – consequences of failure are initiated.§ Suspension from the programme of study and requirement to retake, resit and resubmit an assessment or module in whole or part.§ Withdraw the student with credits retained or removed.§ Revoke an award from within 6 months of graduation.
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